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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE PURSUANT
TO 37 CFR §1.116 REQUESTED
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APR 05 2004

Technology Center 2600

Applicants: Shunji MAEDA et al.
Serial No.: 09/294,137
Filed: April 20, 1999
For: **DEFECT INSPECTION METHOD AND APPARATUS**
Group: 2621
Examiner: Brian P. Werner

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Attn: Mail Stop AF

March 31, 2004

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action (Paper No. 25) dated on December 4, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.